16th August 1956]

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: (a) The Government have not taken any action on the directive referred to.

(b) Does not arise.

Homoeopathy

* 120-C Q.—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the State Government have received any communication from the Centre during the year 1956 with regard to the homoeopathic system of medicine;

(b) whether any amount has been allotted for starting Homoeopathic colleges; and

(c) whether post-graduate course in Homoeopathy is proposed to be introduced?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY: (a) A communication was received in 1955.

(b) & (c) No, Sir.

SRI N. K. PALANISAMY: Sir, the Hon. the Minister has got a prejudice against homoeopaths. May I know whether the Government will constitute a committee to examine whether Homoeopathy can be recognized in this State?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY: Homoeopathy is on the decline in all parts of the world except India. It is doubtful whether there are 500 practitioners of Homoeopathy in the United Kingdom or in the United States of America, while we are supposed to have about 300,000 practitioners in India.

SRI M. PALANIYANDI: In our own Indian Union, in Bengal and Bombay, there are colleges of Homoeopathy. Why not our Government try to have a Government College of Homoeopathy and recognize the homoeopathic system of medicine?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY: We will be only creating confusion by having too many systems of medicine. We have got the modern scientific system of medicine and we have the indigenous system of medicine also. These are good enough for our purpose.

Fire accidents

* 120-D Q.—SRI K. VINAYAKAM (on behalf of Sri A. Ratnam): Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) the number of fire accidents (i) in the City and (ii) in the districts during summer from April 1956;

(b) the estimated loss; and

(c) how many persons were burnt to death?